

Message Text

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56

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FBO-02 L-03 A-01 SSO-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01 CPR-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /058 W

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O 091635Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3708

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 4571

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, DA

SUBJECT: CONGEN OFFICE SPACE IN LUANDA

REF: STATE 297811

1. DCM FINALLY REACHED AMBASSADOR DYVIG, ACTING POL DIRECTOR IN MFA, ON DEC 9 AND EXPLAINED OUR LUANDA CONGEN PROBLEM TO HIM. DYVIG AND HIS COLLEAGUES LOOKED INTO THE PROBLEM AND FOUND THAT "SECIL" IS A PSEUDONYM FOR A FIRM PARTIALLY OWNED BY F.L. SCHMIDT COMPANY AND HOJGAARD & SCHULTZ, WHO ALSO OWN THE LARGEST CEMENT PLANT IN LUANDA.

2. IT APPEARS THAT THE PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT OF SECIL, A MR. SEQUIRA IN LUANDA, WILL BE IN COPENHAGEN DEC 13 AND DYVIG SUGGESTS WE TALK TO HIM DIRECTLY. MFA HAS ALSO EXPLAINED OUR PROBLEM TO F.L. SCHMIDT HOME OFFICE HERE AND ASKED THEM TO EXPRESS TO ANGOLANS THROUGH WHATEVER CHANNEL THEY CONSIDER MOST RELIABLE THAT DANISH GOVT HAS INTEREST IN CASE. DYVIG WENT ON TO SAY THAT PARENT COMPANY OF SECIL (F.L. SCHMIDT) WOULD BE VERY WILLING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR USG PROPERTY IN THEIR BUILDING UNTIL SUCH TIME AS USG PERSONNEL COULD REOCCUPY SPACE. HE ALSO NOTED
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THAT DANISH GOVT HAS ARRANGED TO LEASE OFFICES

IN SAME BUILDING FOR THEIR NEW EMBASSY.

3. DYVIG REPORTED THAT DURING FONMIN ANDERSEN'S RECENT VISIT TO LUANDA MEETING HAD TAKEN PLACE WITH HONORARY DANISH CONSUL THERE. HE TURNS OUT TO BE NICE OLD BRITISH GENTLEMAN WHO STILL WEARS PITH HELMET AND DRIVES HIS JAGUAR AROUND. DANES DECIDED, THEREFORE, NOT TO USE HIM ANYMORE, BECAUSE THEY FEAR THAT ANY APPROACHES TO GOA THROUGH HIM WOULD BE ENTIRELY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

4. COMMENT: BEFORE WE SEE SEQUIRA ON DEC 13, WE WOULD LIKE FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT. INASMUCH AS F.L. SCHMIDT FIRM IS INVOLVED, WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF NATIONALIZATION OF SECIL, GIVEN GOA PROMISES TO FONMIN ANDERSEN. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT DANES ONLY OWN PART OF SECIL, SO IT IS POSSIBLE THAT REMAINDER HAS BEEN NATIONALIZED.
DEAN

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